

Notice No.: 97-007

Date: November 14, 1997

Applies to: All Higher Education Employers

Subject: Multiple PERS Employment

Hours Worked for Different Employers Cannot be Combined to Determine PERS Eligibility

This Notice will help you in determining eligibility for Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) membership. An employer may report an employee in PERS only if he or she holds an eligible position. An employer cannot add the hours worked by an employee with other employers (including higher education employers) to create an eligible position. Each employer must evaluate the eligibility of a position based solely on the hours worked for them. If you have combined the hours an employee works for you with hours worked for another employer, and used those hours to determine the employee's eligibility, you must reevaluate the eligibility of the employee's position based solely on hours worked for you.

Some higher education employers combine hours worked by their employees with hours from other higher education institutions. The purpose is to qualify their employees for the higher education retirement plan, such as TIAA-CREF. This is not an option in PERS.

Determining PERS Eligibility

For PERS Plan 1 and PERS Plan 2, membership is initially based on the position the employee occupies. To determine if an employee is entitled to PERS membership, you must first determine whether that person is in an eligible position. For details, see Chapter 2, PERS Membership, in the *DRS Employer Handbook*.

If the Position is not Eligible

If you determine you have an employee whose position with you is not eligible, please separate him or her from your monthly transmittal report. If you have reported the employee for less than nine months, back out all prior reporting. If you have reported an employee for nine months or longer in an ineligible position, please contact the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS), PERS section, at (360) 709-4700 for additional information regarding the correct procedure.

For assistance with the transmittal reporting, please contact the Employer Support Services Unit at (360) 753-8696.

John Charles
Director

1997 DRS Notices

For a copy of a Notice, call (360) 586-4515.

Notice No.	Applies to/ Subject matter
97-001	All Employers Summary of 1997 Legislation.
97-002	All Employers New Reporting Procedures When Hiring Retirees
97-003	All Employers Contribution Rate Changes
97-004	All LEOFF Employers New Sections to WAC 415-104/Basic Salary for LEOFF Members
97-005	All TRS Employers Members' Annual Statements and Sequencing Information
97-006	All TRS Employers Processing the 40 Percent Transfer Payment
97-007	All Higher Education Employers Multiple PERS Employment